Modernisation of Textile Mills under N.T.C.

3563. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount has been released for the modernisation of N.T.C. mills during 1987-88; and

(b) if so, what are the millwise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) The Government has released an amount of Rs. 15 crores during 1987-88 to NTC towards its modernisation schemes.

Hindi speaking people

3564. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number and percentage of people speaking Hindi in India;

(b) how many non-Hindi speaking States are there in India;

(c) whether Government think that it is time for propagating Hindi all over the country; and

(d) if not, whether Government would stop the Government departments from implementing Hindi as the only official language?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) According to 1981 Census of India (excluding Assam), the number and percentage of Hindi speaking people were 26,41,89,057 and 39.94 per cent respectively.

(b) The number of Non-Hindi speaking States in India is 19.

(c) and (d) Hindi is the official Language of the Union. Initially English was permitted to be used for all the purposes of the Union for a period of fifteen years from the commencement of the Constitution. This period has been extended by the Official Language Act, 1963. According to the provision made in the Official Language Act, 1963, English will continue to be used for the Official purposes of the Union until Resolutions for its discontinuance are passed by the Legislatures of all the States which have not adopted Hindi as their official language, and, until after considering Resolutions aforesaid, a Resolution for such discontinuance has been passed by each House of Parliament. The implementation of the official language Hindi in the Government Departments etc. is being done in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, the Official Language Act, 1963, and the Official Language Resolution 1968 passed in both Houses of Parlament.

P.F. Scheme Extended by Regional Rural Banks

3565. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Regional Rural Banks of all States, except Bihar, have extended the benefit of Provident Fund Scheme on expiry of three years from the date of concerned RRB's establishment to its regular or temporary daily-waged, part-time messengers as per Employees' Provident Fund Act;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for which the Regional Rural Banks of Bihar are not extending this benefit to their daily-waged messengers;

(c) whether steps are being taken to ensure that all the States Regional Rural Bank managements strictly implement the EPF Act and rules without any exception; and

(d) what action has been taken in respect of RRB in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) Regulation 56 of the Staff Services Regulations framed under section 30 of the Regional Rural Banks Act 1976 provides for the extension of benefit of provident fund to all Officers and Employees

of Regional Rural Banks including those of Bihar who have completed continuous minimum service as specified in the Employees Provident Fund and Misc. Provision Act 1952.

The existing data reporting system does not yield information about the Provident Fund contributions being made by individual employees of Regional Rural Banks in various States. However, the Employees Provident Fund and Misc. Provisions Act 1952 itself provides for penalties for available at Bhubaneshwar for such allotment ?

Voluntary Retirement in the Jiyaji Rao Cotton Mills Ltd., Gwalior

3566. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that having failed to get permission from the Madhya Pradesh Government in August, 1987 for closing down the whole of the weaving and related sections of Jiyaji Rao Cotton Mills Ltd., Gwalior, the management proceeded with a scheme of voluntary retirement to retrench nearly 2300 workers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the said voluntary retirement scheme had no approval of the trade unions;

(c) whether the State Government's Labour Department had consented for application of the said voluntary retirement scheme only in sections where the management wanted to impose closure;

(d) whether it also a fact that half of such retrenched workers belong to those sections of the mill which were not supposed to close down;

(e) whether it is also a fact that due to this partial closure nearly 2000 substitute workers have also been rendered jobless; and

(f) whether his Ministry is taking steps to stop the management's attempt to close down the whole loom shed of the mill illegally and to protect the jobs of the thousands of workers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (d) According to available information, Jiyaji Rao Cotton Mills Ltd., Gwalior submitted an application to the Madhya Pradesh Government seeking permission under Section 25(O) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 to suspend operations of some old plain looms and attendant department. The Madhya Pradesh Government while disposing of the applications directed the mill management to formulate a voluntary retirement scheme for the affeced workers in accordance with the understanding reached with various unions.

(e) The interests of substitute workers are being protected under the agreement with the unions.

(f) The closure of the old looms and attendant department etc. is being undertaken with the interest of workers protected by the voluntary retirement scheme, as directed by the Madhya Pradesh Government.

Audit offices in the P & T Department

3567. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that major P&T units of Orissa Circle like Postmaster General Office, General Manager, Telecommunications, S. E. Unit Divisional Engineer, Telegraphs, E.E. Civil and Electrical, Postal Stores Depot, Postal Life Insurance, P&T Printing Press, PAO, P&T Dispensary, etc. are functioning from Bhubaneshwar;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for which the P&T Audit Office alone has not been shifted from Cuttack to Bhubaneshwar when officials of P&T Audit have to very often go to Bhubaneshwar for inspection work involving public money;

(c) whether any memorandum has been received from the Central Government Employees 'Coordination Committee of Unions and Assocation, Cuttack making a strong plea for shifting of P&T Audit Office from Cuttack to Bhubaneshwar; and

(d) what are the reasons for which the proposal for shifting of P&T Audit Office